

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 017376 TOSEC 010186

20

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: NEA:AGRIFFIN:PM

APPROVED BY: NEA:AGRIFFIN

S/S:O:DLMACK

----- 116474

O 230456Z JAN 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017376 TOSEC 010186

EXDIS, FOR DAY

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ROME FROM BEIRUT  
JAN 22:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 0703

EXDIS

PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR DAY IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VATICAN STATEMENT ON LEBANESE CRISIS

1. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, WE FEAR EXTREME STATEMENTS MADE  
BY CHAMOUN AND HARD-NOSE ATTITUDE PHALANGE RANK AND FILE  
CONSTITUTE GRAVE RISK TO FRANGIE-ASAD EFFORTS REACH COMPROM-  
ISE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF LEBANESE CRISIS. ADDED TO THIS  
HAS BEEN STRONG STATEMENT BY PATRIARCH DEPLORING DAMOUR EVENTS  
AND APPEALING, INTER ALIA, TO POPE.

2. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND IN INTEREST OF SAFE-  
GUARDING WHAT MIGHT BE LEBANESE LAST CHANCE REACH POLITICAL  
SETTLEMENT BEFORE MORE SERIOUS MILITARY ESCALATION, WE RECOMMEND  
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DEPARTMENT CONSIDER IMMEDIATE APPROACH

TO VATICAN WITH SUGGESTION THAT POPE MIGHT WISH TO MAKE STATE-  
MENT WHICH, WHILE DEPLORING GENERAL BLOODSHED (HE COULD TIE  
STATEMENT IN WITH PATRIARCH'S) WOULD EXPRESS SPECIFIC SUPPORT  
FOR PRESIDENT FRANGIE'S EFFORTS IN ATTEMPTING TO REACH  
POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

3. VATICAN BLESSING OF FRANGIE ENDEAVOR COULD WELL SERVE TO  
STRENGTHEN FRANGIE'S HAD VIS-A-VIS MORE EXTREMIST  
CHRISTIAN LEADERS AT A TIME WHEN HE MOST NEEDS IT.  
MOREOVER, VATICAN MIGHT WELL BE PREPARED A REPLY TO PATRIARCH'S  
STATEMENT AND WE COULD THUS GET IN OUR THINKING BEFORE IT  
WAS ISSUED. LAMBRAKIS UNQUOTE SISCO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, SPEECHES, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D760025-0900  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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